

ASX Release

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UPDATE ON ALA-101 AND ONCARLYTICS RESEARCH COLLABORATION

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 4 December 2023: Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform, is providing an update on the progress of its research collaboration to combine Arovella's CAR-iNKT asset, ALA-101, with Imugene's onCARlytics platform.

Arovella had expected preliminary *in vivo* data for the study to be available prior to the end of 2023. However, the availability of this data has been delayed due to technical challenges with the pilot study in the hands of Arovella's contract research provider.

While this delay is disappointing, it does not impact progress of ALA-101 towards first in human clinical trials. Arovella continues to complete its manufacturing optimisation and scale-up for ALA-101 in preparation for IND-enabling studies in the first half of 2024.

Arovella's CEO and MD, Dr Michael Baker, commented "We continue to be optimistic about the combination of ALA-101 with onCARlytics. Scientifically, the collaboration is exciting and may provide a treatment pathway for patients with very few options. We will continue to work hard to generate robust *in vivo* data. However, we need to ensure that the data generated is of the highest quality, which is why we deemed it necessary to repeat our pilot mouse study."

Release authorised by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Arovella Therapeutics Limited.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:**About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella's lead product is ALA-101. ALA-101 consists of CAR19-iNKT cells that have been modified to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) that targets CD19. CD19 is an antigen found on the surface of numerous cancer types. Arovella is also expanding into solid tumour treatment through its CLDN18.2-targeting technology licensed from Sparx Group. iNKT cells also contain an invariant T cell receptor (iTCR) that targets α -GalCer bound CD1d, another antigen found on the surface of several cancer types. ALA-101 is being developed as an allogeneic cell therapy, which means it can be given from a healthy donor to a patient.

Glossary: **iNKT cell** – invariant Natural Killer T cells; **CAR** – Chimeric Antigen Receptor that can be introduced into immune cells to target cancer cells; **TCR** – T cell receptors are a group of proteins found on immune cells that recognise fragments of antigens as peptides bound to MHC complexes; **B-cell lymphoma** – A type of cancer that forms in B cells (a type of immune system cell); **CD1d** – Cluster of differentiation 1, which is expressed on some immune cells and cancer cells; **α GalCer** – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

For more information, visit www.arovella.com

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